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MARTIN & FERRARO, LLP 1557 Lake O'Pines Street, NE Hartville, Ohio 44632

Telephone (330) 877-0700

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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL

TO:

FROM:

Name: Mail Stop AMENDMENT

From-MARTIN&FERRAROLLP

Name:

Thomas H. Martin, Esq.

T-241

P.001

Group Art Unit 3764/Examiner M. Brown

Phone No.: 330-877-2277

Firm: U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

No. of Pages (including this): 14

Subject: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/497,590

Date:

January 30, 2007

Confirmation Copy to Follow: NO

Gary Karlin Michelson

Fax No.: 571-273-8300

Filed: June 6, 2000

APPARATUS INCLUDING A GUARD MEMBER HAVING A PASSAGE WITH A NON-CIRCULAR CROSS SECTION FOR PROVIDING PROTECTED

ACCESS TO THE SPINE (as amended) Attorney Docket No. 101.0044-03000

Customer No. 22882 Confirmation No.: 7688

Message:

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that the attached Transmittal Form (in duplicate; total amount of \$570.00 to cover the third-month extension fee is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-3726) and Supplemental Amendment are being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on January 30, 2007.

Sandra L. Blackmon

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FORM PTO-1083

Attorney Docket No.: 101.0044-03000

Customer No. 22882

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Gary Karlin Michelson, M.D.

Serial No: 09/497,590 Filed: June 6, 2000

APPARATUS INCLUDING A GUARD MEMBER

HAVING A PASSAGE WITH A NON-CIRCULAR CROSS SECTION FOR PROVIDING PROTECTED

ACCESS TO THE SPINE (as amended)

CENTRAL FAX CENTER

Confirmation No.: 7688 JAN 3 0 2007

Art Unit: 3764

Examiner: Michael Brown

Mail Stop AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Further to the Amendment filed January 17, 2007, transmitted herewith is a Supplemental Amendment in reply to the August 28, 2008 Office Action in the above-identified application.

No additional fee is required.

冈 Applicant hereby requests a third-month extension of time to respond to the above office action (noting that a two-month extension was previously requested on January 17, 2007).

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Col. 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR		(Col. 3) PRESENT EXTRA*	LG/SM \$ ENYITY FEE		ADD'L FEE DUE	
TOTAL CLAIMS FEE	78	-	85		0	LG=\$50 SM=\$25	\$50	\$	0
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS FEE	. 2		3	•••	0	LG=\$200 SM=\$100	\$200	\$	٥
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS LARGE ENTITY FEE = \$280 SMALL ENTITY FEE = \$140								\$	۵
						•	TOTAL	\$	٥

If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space. The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box on Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

- \boxtimes A fee in the amount of \$570.00 to cover the third-month extension fee is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-3726.
- 図 The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies of fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3726. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.
 - \boxtimes Any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims
 - Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17

Respectfully submitted, MARTIN & FERRARO, LLP

Date: January 30, 2007

Thomas H. Marlin Registration No. 34,383

1557 Lake O'Pines Street, NE Hartville, Ohio 44632

Telephone: 330-877-0700 Facsimile: 330-877-2030

PATENT Attorney Docket No. 101.0044-03000 Customer No. 22882

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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JAN 3 0 2007

In re Application of: Confirmation No.: 7688 Gary Karlin Michelson Serial No.: 09/497,590 Group Art Unit: 3764 Filed: June 6, 2000 Examiner: Michael Brown For: APPARATUS INCLUDING A GUARD) MEMBER HAVING A PASSAGE WITH A NON-CIRCULAR CROSS SECTION FOR PROVIDING PROTECTED ACCESS TO THE SPINE (as amended)

Mail Stop AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

01 FC:1253

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT

In reply to the Office Action of August 28, 2006, the period for reply having been extended for a third month by a request for extension and fee payment filed concurrently herewith (noting that a two-month extension was previously requested), please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 01/31/2007 SFELEKE1 00000040 503726 09497594 570.00 DA

Amendment 1-30-07.doc